

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, BEXP, PO

SUBJ: "COMMERCE AMERICA" SERIES OF ARTICLES ON PORTUGAL

1. I REQUEST THAT "COMMERCE AMERICA" FEATURE PORTUGAL IN ITS MID-DECEMBER ISSUE IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE U.S. TRADE AND INVESTMENT IN PORTUGAL. THE PORTUGUESE SECTION WOULD INCLUDE ARTICLES ON ECONOMIC TRENDS, TRADE PROSPECTS AND REGULATIONS, DIRECT-INVESTMENT CLIMATE AND MAJOR EXPORT PROJECTS. THE GOP HAS TENTATIVELY AGREED TO PROVIDE MATERIAL FOR OTHER, MORE SPECIFIC SECTORAL ARTICLES. THE PORTUGUESE INDUSTRIAL CONFEDERATION WILL COOPERATE FULLY.

2. IN ADDITION TO GENERATING INTEREST AMONG U.S. BUSINESS IN TRADE AND INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES, THE ARTICLES WILL HIGHLIGHT PORTUGAL'S INCREASING POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC STABILITY. BY MID-NOVEMBER, THE GOP WILL HAVE PUBLISHED ITS ONE-YEAR PLAN DETAILING INVESTMENT PROJECT PRIORITIES. NECESSARY TRADE AND INVESTMENT REGULATIONS SHOULD BE IN FORCE AND KEY ECONOMIC AND LABOR MEASURES ARE EXPECTED TO BE IMPLEMENTED.

3. I AM CONVINCED THAT FOREIGN PRIVATE SECTOR ACTIVITY IN PORTUGAL IS NECESSARY TO ASSIST IN ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND A FEATURE IN "COMMERCE AMERICA" WILL ENCOURAGE THIS ACTIVITY.
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